



**Honoring American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month  
Utah's Indigenous Day Poetry Contest 2016**

Sponsored by the Utah Division of Indian Affairs,  
Utah Department of Heritage and Arts and Thanksgiving Point

Poetry writing contest for American Indian students in Utah schools, open to grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.

**DEADLINE: All entries must be submitted on or before October 21, 2016.**

For more information see contact below and please submit online at [indian.utah.gov](http://indian.utah.gov), or  
email/mail entries to:

Meredith Lam, Title VI Program  
Provo School District  
280 West 940 North  
Provo, UT 84604  
[meredithl@provo.edu](mailto:meredithl@provo.edu)

The Utah Division of Indian Affairs is excited to sponsor a state-wide poetry writing contest for all Utah American Indian students (grades 3-12) in honor of Utah's Annual Indigenous Day celebration. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize the diversity of our Native people living in Utah. We encourage you to submit your poems with other students throughout the state.

All poems entered will be sent to one of two judges for each division. Each judge will select the top five poems in their group. These winning poets will be notified and their poems will be sent to the final judges who will select the winners. The winners will be notified and honored at the annual Indigenous Day celebration at Thanksgiving Point's Red Barn on November 4, 2016.

All poems should reflect this year's theme – *Spiritual Wings: Embracing Native Culture* – be creative and help students articulate how “spiritual wings” or “wings” help embrace/strengthen Native culture. Here is a link to with some writing resources that may be helpful:

<https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/text/poems-kids>

We suggest teachers emphasize that students are not to plagiarize poetry, no matter the source. You might also want to clarify what constitutes plagiarism as there have been incidents when poems were unknowingly plagiarized. Plagiarism is defined as “to take and use” another person’s ideas and writings as one’s own; it includes to alter, change, or enhance another’s poem. Teachers may instruct students in proper grammar, spelling and poetic techniques, and may serve as editor in the writing process.

#### Utah’s Indigenous Day Poetry Contest – 2016 Categories

- A) Grades 3 through 6
- B) Grades 7 through 9
- C) Grades 10 through 12

#### **Contest Rules:**

This contest is open to Utah American Indian students in school districts, charter, public and private or home schools, grades 3-12. **Entries must be submitted by October 21, 2016** (submit by email or online at [Indian.utah.gov](http://Indian.utah.gov)).

**THE ENTRY MUST BE THE ORIGINAL WORK OF THE STUDENT. DO NOT COPY OR USE ALL OR PART OF SOME ONE ELSE’S POEM.** “Found poems” will not be considered. A quote used as an epigraph, giving credit to the author, is acceptable.

- Poems may be in any style or form: rhymed, unrhymed, free verse, traditional, etc.
- Each student may only enter one poem.
- Poems must not have been published in any form.
- Poems are limited to one page and must not be longer than 40 lines (not including title or spaces).
- All poems must be in English.
- Each poem should be neatly typed or computer-generated with standard font (i.e., New Times Roman or Helvetica in 10 or 12 point font).
- Entries should not be illustrated or use other graphic art.
- No entries will be returned.

If you choose to send your submission by email, please follow the same formatting below and include the poem’s designation in the attachment line.

For example:

“Poem Title – Original”

“Poem Title – Copy “

**On both copies of the poem, please include the following information on the top left of each submission:**

Student Grade Level

Poetry Contest Division (see categories above)

School District (private, home schools, charter schools indicate geographical location)

School Name

School Address

**On the top right of original copy, provide the following information:**

Student poet's full name

Student's phone number

Teacher's full name

Principal's full name

**Please see sample below.**